

I am indebted to Messrs. E. and J. Masson et Cie for permission to make copies V.C., E, and J from the illustrations in Mr. Victor Veau's book on "Division Palatine." It is also through the generosity of the editor of *The British Dental Journal* that I can publish Plate H from an article by the late Mr. A. T. Pitts.

I cannot conclude this paper without expressing my gratitude to the anæsthetists, especially Dr. Geddes, for their co-operation in these operations. I should like to say how much the good results and low mortality have been contributed to by the careful nursing and supervision of Sister Mills and the nurses at the Ulster Hospital. Miss Mitchell has been very helpful in training the speech of the older children who had acquired speech defects before their palates had been operated upon.

REFERENCES

1. VEAU, V.: "Bec de Levre," Paris: Masson. Cie.; 1931.
2. VEAU, V.: "Division Palatine," Paris: Masson. Cie.; 1938.
3. MORLEY, M.: "Cleft Palate," E. & S. Livingstone; 1945.
4. PITTS, A. T.: "Some Dental Aspects of Cleft Palate," *The British Dental Journal*, May 1, 1922.

REVIEWS

A COMPANION IN SURGICAL STUDIES. By Ian Aird. Pp. 1068. 1949. Edinburgh: E. & S. Livingstone Ltd. 63s.

THIS should be a very useful book for those taking higher surgical examinations and for surgeons in their clinical teaching. The well-chosen references should make it valuable as a starting-off place for the study of the literature of any particular subject.

"Ian Aird's Notes" were famous in Edinburgh before the war and he published them privately in book form. They made rather difficult reading, as the material they contained was very much condensed and as the headings were few and far between.

The present book is an elaboration of the previous notes, brought up to date very well indeed, and with adequate headings.

Though some of the subjects are dealt with rather briefly, the amount of information given generally is much more than the average text-book contains. S. A. V.

GAS AND AIR ANALGESIA. By R. J. Minnitt. Fourth Edition. Pp. vii + 86, with 22 illustrations. 5s. net.

How we welcome a new edition by this indefatigable author. His little book is a delight to handle, as it is excellently printed and illustrated. It is gratifying to realise that there is at least one man in the world who is pegging away to make childbirth easier. One wonders if mothers all over the world ever realise what Dr. Minnitt is doing for them.

He is also doing a great deal for those who lecture to midwives on gas and air analgesia. His little book is an excellent text-book—clear and concise—and is invaluable to those of us who try to explain, in simple language, the workings of the gas and air machines.

We are pleased to see that the author stresses the human element and states that "the attitude of the midwife, or medical attendant, has an important bearing on the amount of relief the patient receives." It is gratifying to note that some emphasis is placed on contradicting the belief that all the anæsthetist has to do is to sit back and twiddle the taps.

This book can be recommended with confidence to all those who are interested in gas and air analgesia. What could be a more fitting ending to this brief review than a quotation from the author? "So may there dawn renewed hope in the hearts of women." V. L.